

**Adam Stephen to George Washington, May 31, 1756,
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.
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FROM COLONEL ADAM STEPHEN.

FORT CUMBERLAND May 31st. 1756

SIR,

I wrote you Saturday last, concerning Cressop's Party, who has behaved very ill, and about the Skirmish Mr Gist's Party had with the French and Indians —

The Enemy was observed to Dispatch a Runner towards the Crossing immediately on their meeting our Party—Lieut. Gist brought off the men very prettily, but with the loss of four, as You will see in the Return—Both parties behaved with great Resolution, and altho our men quit the Field at last They Seem to have more Courage, and are all of Opinion that they had the Advantage, giving a Circumstantial Acct. of a Frenchman and Seven Indian's being killed —

I forgot my Acct. in my last, and missed inclosing it in the Packet.—I have been Oblig'd to Borrow £21,, 19,, 1 to Pay Some of Gist's Recruits According to the Within Muster Roll—Lt Gist being out on Command when the Paymaster paid the Troops of the Garrison—The men are Scandalously naked.

Library of Congress

The Indians have Blazed a path¹ from the Crossing of Savage River on the Allegany Road, cross towards Potowmack a nearer way than to Come to the foot of the mountain on this Side.

I am, Sir, Your most obt huble. Servt. ADAM STEPHEN

¹ Blazing among the Indians and early settlers was an expression for marking a road through the woods by cutting the bark from the trees,